



## **Home Learning**

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### **Related Policies**

- Homework, Catholic Education Office

### **Purpose**

At Sacred Heart Primary School we believe that home learning is an effective strategy that supports and reinforces work being covered in the classroom. Home learning develops independent learning skills and study habits.

When considering home learning, teachers should consider the different roles and circumstances of parents, families and students.

### **Definitions**

Homework: work assigned by teachers to be completed by students outside of school hours

### **Goals**

At Sacred Heart Primary School we believe home learning:

- provides a method of communication between school and home;
- promotes the home-school partnership;
- develops effective time and resource management skills;
- develops self discipline and independent study skills;
- develops research skills;
- reinforces class work;
- provides time for revision and practice of skills;
- provides parents with the opportunity to observe class activities and raise their awareness of their child's progress; and
- encourages parents to talk to their children about their school work.

### **Implementation**

The Teacher's role is to:

- discuss expectations about home learning with parents at the Parent Information Night;
- provide interesting and challenging home learning appropriate for the varying abilities in the class;
- provide a balance of open ended, creative and revision activities;
- give clear, explicit instructions and feedback to students and parents;
- be firm, but flexible in the expectation that home learning be completed;
- communicate with parents regarding any concerns with home learning; and
- teach the necessary research and other skills to enable students to complete home learning tasks.

The Parent's role is to:

- provide an environment for the child where supervision, encouragement and some assistance are given;
- respect the child's knowledge and skills;
- communicate with the teacher regarding any concerns about homework; and
- provide a written explanation when home learning is not completed.

The Student's role is to:

- accept responsibility for the completion of home learning, and finish tasks to the best of his/her ability;
- ask for assistance from teacher and family if necessary; and
- ensure the work is handed in for marking.

### **Time Allocation**

Kinder	Reading/Sight Words/Speaking & Listening	10 minutes
Year 1	Reading/Sight Words/ Speaking & Listening	15 minutes
Year 2	Reading/Spelling/Maths/ Speaking & Listening	20 minutes
Year 3 /4	Reading/Spelling/Mathletics/Across Curriculum	30 minutes
Year 5 / 6	Reading/Spelling/Mathletics/ Across Curriculum	45 minutes

Homework tasks will usually reinforce concepts taught in class

### **Things to be considered**

Home learning should:

- be interesting and challenging;
- include formal activities, such as practice and consolidation, writing tasks, spelling activities, reading tasks and research assignments;
- include informal activities, such as reading for enjoyment, discussion, art & craft and problem solving;
- include preparation activities, such as collecting resources and materials for later lessons;
- be negotiated with the students and sometimes parents;
- always be checked or marked;
- be handed out with some direction to students or parents as to what is expected; and
- where applicable be set on a contract basis where students have to plan their time.

### **Reference**

The Peta Guide to Homework PETA 1997